Saskatchewan Health

Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch

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SASKATCHEWAN FORMULARY COMMITTEE BULLETIN FOR THE UPDATE TO THE 57th EDITION OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FORMULARY

The following listings are effective **July 1, 2007** unless otherwise indicated.

NEW FULL FORMULARY LISTINGS:

- Ciclesonide, metered dose inhaler, 100mcg, 200mcg (Alvesco-ATA)

NEW EXCEPTION DRUG STATUS (EDS) LISTINGS:

Deferasirox, tablet for suspension, 125mg, 250mg, 500mg (Exjade-NVR)

- For treatment of chronic iron overload in patients with transfusion dependent anemias who have a contraindication to the injectable deferoxamine. The Committee supports the Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC) recommendation.

Note: The Committee noted that there are more adverse reactions with this product and it has a Notice of Compliance with conditions. Until these concerns are clarified/removed, it should be used second-line. The Committee also noted that this product should not be approved for coverage when the reason is only for convenience.

NEW STRENGTHS/DOSAGE FORMS OF CURRENTLY LISTED EDS DRUGS:

The current EDS criteria will apply to the following:

- Lansoprazole, orally disintegrating tablet, 15mg (Prevacid FasTab-ABB)

Note: the current Maximum Allowable Cost policy will apply.

- Darbepoetin alfa, pre-filled syringe 200ug/mL (130ug/0.65ml) (Aranesp-AMG)

CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW WITH THE NATIONAL COMMON DRUG REVIEW PROCESS (as of the printing of this Bulletin):

- Sebivo, Baraclude, Prexige, Orencia, Myozyme, Sativex, Somatuline Autogel, Altace HCT, Zytram XL, Champix

OTHER PRODUCTS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE SASKATCHEWAN REVIEW COMMITTEES:

- Tysabri, Rituxan (rheumatoid arthritis), Ascensia Breeze 2, Raptiva, Tramacet, Sandoz Cyclosporine

PRODUCTS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR COVERAGE VIA THE COMMON DRUG REVIEW (CDR) PROCESS:

The following products were reviewed by the Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC) under the national Common Drug Review (CDR) process and not recommended for coverage under provincial drug plans. The CEDAC recommendations were supported by the Saskatchewan drug review committees which in turn noted the following:

- Rasagiline mesylate, tablet, 0.5mg, 1mg (Azilect-TVM)
  The review committees noted that the clinical benefit is insufficient to recommend listing.
- Atomoxetine hydrochloride, capsule, 10mg, 18mg, 25mg, 40mg, 60mg (Strattera-LIL)
  The Committee supports CEDAC who reaffirmed their previous recommendation that this product not be listed by provincial drug plans.
  Note: CEDAC noted that no further evidence was provided to support a therapeutic advantage of atomoxetine over currently available drug therapies in the treatment of ADHD in children/adults. In addition no randomised controlled trials were identified that evaluated atomoxetine in patients who have not been able to tolerate or who have failed an adequate trial of amphetamine salts or methylphenidate.

OTHER PRODUCTS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE SASKATCHEWAN REVIEW COMMITTEES:

- Desmopressin, orally disintegrating tablet, 60ug, 120ug (DDAVP Melt-FEI)
  The committees felt there is no need for this additional dosage formulation. As well there would be a slight increase in cost (relative to the generic product) with this product.
- Donepezil HCl, rapidly dissolving tablet, 5mg, 10mg (Aricept RDT-PFI)
  The review committees have concluded that there is no need for this product. It offers no advantage over the currently listed dosage forms.

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL PHARMACY PRACTICE:

- Tigecycline (Tygacil-WYA) was recommended for restricted coverage on the Hospital Benefit Drug List for the treatment of infections resistant to first-line agents and on the recommendation of an infectious disease specialist.
- Ondansetron tablets and injection will be added to the Hospital Benefit Drug List.

The following products have been approved prior to the July update in accordance with the new generic streamlining policy. Pharmacies were notified of these additions through Pharmacy Bulletins.

NEW INTERCHANGEABLE LISTINGS EFFECTIVE May 1, 2007:

- Citalopram, tablet, 20mg, 40mg (Ran-Citalopram-RAN)
- Pravastatin, tablet, 10mg, 20mg, 40mg (CO Pravastatin-COB)

NEW INTERCHANGEABLE EDS LISTINGS EFFECTIVE May 1, 2007 according to current criteria:

- Cefprozil, tablet, 250mg, 500mg (Apo-Cefprozil-APX), tablet, 250mg, 500mg, oral suspension, 50mg/mL (Ran-Cefprozil-RAN)

NEW INTERCHANGEABLE LISTINGS EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2007:

- Fluticasone propionate, metered dose nasal spray, 50ug/actuation (Apo-Fluticasone-APX)
- Ramipril, capsule, 1.25mg, 2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg (Novo-Ramipril-NOP)
- Tamsulosin HCl, sustained release capsule, 0.4mg (ratio-Tamsulosin-RPH)

The Saskatchewan review committees have recommended that coverage be provided for treprostinil injection, 1mg/mL, 2.5mg/mL, 5mg/mL, 10mg/mL (Remodulin-United Therapeutics Incorporated). The review committees support the CEDAC recommendation that coverage be provided under Exception Drug Status according to the following criteria:

for patients with primary pulmonary hypertension or pulmonary hypertension secondary to collagen vascular disease, with New York Heart association class III or IV disease who have both:

a) failed to respond to non-prostanoid therapies (i.e. calcium channel blockers, vasodilators, bosentan) and;

b) who are not candidates for epoprostenol therapy because of:
   - prior recurrent complications with central line access (eg. infection, thrombosis) or,
   - inability to operate the complicated delivery system of epoprostenol or,
   - they reside in an area without ready access to medical care, which could complicate problems associated with an abrupt interruption of epoprostenol therapy.

Ipratropium bromide/salbutamol sulfate, metered dose inhaler, 20ug/100ug (Combivent) has been discontinued by the manufacturer (Boehringer Ingelheim). The inhalation solution continues to be a benefit. As well, the individual components of Combivent are listed in the Formulary.

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FORMULARY AND EDS UPDATES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007

GENERIC & TRADE NAME	STRENGTH & FORM	DIN	UNIT PRICE	LEGEND
***Acetylsalicylic acid**				
pms-ASA EC	650mg EC tablet	02284537	0.0936	I/C
Ciclesonide				
Alvesco	100ug metered dose inhaler	02285606	45.1800	
Alvesco	200ug metered dose inhaler	02285614	74.2200	
Darbepoetin alfa				
Aranesp	200ug/mL p.f. syringe (0.65mL)	02246358	355.9000	EDS
Deferasirox				
Exjade	125mg tablet for oral suspension	02287420	10.7144	EDS
Exjade	250mg tablet for oral suspension	02287439	20.8215	EDS
Exjade	500mg tablet for oral suspension	02287447	40.5715	EDS
Fluticasone propionate				
ratio-Fluticasone 50 NS	50ug/act. metered dose nasal spray	02296071	23.8400	I/C
Lansoprazole				
Prevacid FasTab	15mg orally disintegrating tablet	02249464	2.1700	EDS
Levetiracetam				
pms-Levetiracetam	250mg tablet	02296101	1.2125	I/C
pms-Levetiracetam	500mg tablet	02296128	1.4811	I/C
pms-Levetiracetam	750mg tablet	02296136	2.1077	I/C
Pravastatin				
Ran-Pravastatin	10mg tablet	02284421	1.0340	I/C
Ran-Pravastatin	20mg tablet	02284448	1.2199	I/C
Ran-Pravastatin	40mg tablet	02284456	1.4695	I/C
Tamsulosin HCl				
Sandoz Tamsulosin	0.4mg sustained release capsule	02295121	0.6510	
Treprostinil				
Remodulin	1mg injection solution (bill/mL)	02246552	46.5000	EDS
Remodulin	2mg injection solution (bill/mL)	02246553	114.0000	EDS
Remodulin	5mg injection solution (bill/mL)	02246554	226.5000	EDS
Remodulin	10mg injection solution (bill/mL)	02246555	451.5000	EDS
Supplies - per diem	Remodulin supplies	00950963	46.0000	EDS
	PRICE REDUCTIONS:			
Blood Glucose Test Strips				
Sidekick	strip	00950948	0.4536	Not I/C
Risperidone				
Risperdal Consta	25mg/vial powder for injection	02255707	160.4200	EDS
Risperdal Consta	37.5mg/vial powder for injection	02255723	240.6200	EDS
Risperdal Consta	50mg/vial powder for injection	02255758	320.8300	EDS

LEGEND: EDS-Exception Drug Status; I/C-Interchangeable; Not I/C-Not Interchangeable